

House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay respect to the memory of Staff Sergeant Justin M. DeCrow, one of the 13 victims that died in the tragic and senseless attack at Ford Hood, Texas, on November 5, 2009.

Staff Sergeant DeCrow is survived by his wife Marikay and their 13-year-old daughter Kyla who currently live in Evans, Georgia. Justin was described as a loving father and husband with an "infectious charm and wit that always put others at ease." This is what many of us aspire to be, but it seems Justin was an exemplary person to display such character.

We owe Staff Sergeant DeCrow's family an answer as to why this has happened and to ensure that it never happens again. I pledge to all the victims and their families that I will do everything that I can to find the answers as to why this act of terror took place.

MEDICARE PHYSICIAN PAYMENT REFORM ACT

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to reaffirm my support for physicians, for the work that they do, and, of course, the fix that we just passed, the Medicare Physician Payment Reform Act, that finally responds to the medical care that doctors give all over America.

This bill will repeal a 21-percent fee reduction that currently was scheduled right around the corner for January 2010. It also reinforces the rights of seniors to keep their doctors and, as well, to lower costs. It has a pay-for as well. It is a procedure that has already been handled.

Proper management of Medicare funding ensures that the Medicare system will be able to properly support the medical needs of its intended beneficiaries. This bill will help promote the use of primary care and give access to the use of primary care practitioners in Medicare and throughout the health care system.

I have been working to support and protect physician-owned hospitals which give quality care, physicians who are able to go in and protect the quality of medical care in rural and urban areas. This bill also supports our physicians, and I am proud of it.

RELEASE FATHER NGUYEN VAN LY

(Mr. CAO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call upon the administration and Congress to ask the Vietnamese Government to unconditionally release Father Nguyen Van Ly to his family.

Father Ly is one of many Vietnamese citizens who have been harassed for re-

ligious and democracy advocacy. He has been placed on trial without defense and imprisoned more than once for a total of almost 17 years.

As a Roman Catholic priest and prominent Vietnamese dissident, Father Ly has become a powerful icon in the ongoing fight for human rights. For his continuous imprisonment and nonviolent protests, Amnesty International adopted him as the Prisoner of Conscience in 1983. His support for the Bloc 8406 Manifesto, which called for a democratic Vietnam, has led to his most recent sentence on March 30, 2007, for an additional 8 years in prison. Sadly, Father Ly suffered his second stroke just 5 days ago, leaving the right side of his body paralyzed.

In a letter to His Excellency Nguyen Tan Dung, the Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Members of Congress asked the government of Vietnam to unconditionally release Father Ly on humanitarian grounds; provide access for his immediate and long-term medical care; and grant his family unencumbered admittance to lend moral, physical, and spiritual support during this difficult time.

We believe Father Nguyen Van Ly to be a prisoner of conscience held solely for the peaceful expression of his dissenting political and religious beliefs. Asking for his release is an opportunity for Congress to take a bold stand for human rights.

DON'T BRING TERRORISTS TO THE UNITED STATES

(Mr. GOHMERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, we've had people saying yes, we want to bring terrorists to New York. We want to bring them to Illinois. We had Senator DURBIN say, This is a lifeline. This is an opportunity for these people to finally have a chance to save their communities, and this project will give them that chance. Talking about bringing jobs to Illinois, Governor Pat Quinn said the prison that will be proposed in Thompson, Illinois, would provide economic opportunity.

We're talking about terrorists. And the moment these terrorists put their feet in New York after we've spent millions and millions of dollars, they will then file a motion to transfer venue. My friends across the aisle who have said, we want to look them in the eye and sentence them to death will have their statements as exhibits in the motion to transfer venue as to why they could not get a fair trial in New York.

This is a huge mistake. A terrorist whose own pleading earlier this year says that "your end is very near and your fall will be just as the fall of the towers on the blessed 9/11 day" does not need to be brought to the most densely populated area in the country.

Don't do it, Mr. President.

HONORING MARY ANNE SHARP

(Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor one of my constituents, Mary Anne Sharp. She is celebrating her 45th year as director of the Decatur Civic Chorus in Decatur, Georgia.

Under Ms. Sharp's leadership, the chorus has grown from a small group to a well-known and widely respected ensemble of 60 voices which has performed at hundreds of civic functions and organizations, including hospitals, nursing, and retirement homes.

Under Mary Anne Sharp's direction, the chorus has represented Georgia and the United States on tours and at festivals throughout the world. She is one of the points of light in my district, and I just recognize her from the well of the House for the great job she has done. Culture brings us all together; and I just applaud her efforts in this regard.

Mr. Speaker, as we continue to grapple with the great issues of war and peace, health care policy and other matters of state, let us not forget to recognize the heroes in our communities who give their time and spirit to share the arts with their neighbors.

Let us thank Mary Anne Sharp for her work, her heart, and her contributions to the community I am privileged to represent.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE of Texas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

WHERE ARE THE JOBS?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the House to ask the question that many Americans are asking, and that is, Where are the jobs?

Over the last few months, the American people have been saying very vocally that they want this Congress to address the big problems that are affecting them today—and there are a number of problems. But the top problem I hear from my constituents—and I am hearing from so many of my other colleagues that their constituents are saying the same thing—is that they want this Congress to be focused on creating jobs. Unfortunately, we're seeing just the opposite happen in terms of the policies that are being brought forth by the liberal leadership of this Democratically controlled Congress.

It started back with the first bill that came out, the so-called stimulus

bill. This was a bill that added \$787 billion of debt that our children and grandchildren have to pay—money we didn't have—but the White House said, Don't worry. We've got to roll this thing through quickly, ram it through. Don't let anybody have the opportunity to read it, and it's got to go quickly because we need to stop unemployment from breaking 8 percent, and this bill's going to do it.

And then they said, When this bill passes, there's going to be so much transparency, you'll be able to track every dime, there won't be any waste, fraud, and abuse; and you can even go to a Web site and track where that money is going.

So, of course, after that bill passed, a bill that many of us opposed because we knew it wouldn't create jobs—in fact, it would actually make our economy worse because it was all borrowed money, money that our children and grandchildren have to pay. But what was worse is now that we're starting to try to find out where that money is, where is that money? We know when we're asking where are the jobs, we can't find the jobs because millions more Americans have lost their job since that bill passed. So it actually had the opposite effect that the American people were promised when the President stood right here on this podium.

But now as people across the country are trying to track down and say, Where is that transparency? Where are those billions and billions of dollars that have been spent going to?, we just find out the other day when you go to the White House's own Web site, Recovery.gov, you can't actually track those jobs. You can't track where that money's gone because there's an incredible amount of fraudulent information on that Web site.

Now, those of us in Louisiana were waking up on Tuesday going to that Web site, and maybe some people would think it would be good news that we found out that we had 15 congressional districts, according to the White House's own Web site. They actually tracked districts that don't exist.

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Of course, in Louisiana, we only have seven congressional districts. So a reporter from our local newspaper called the White House. And first of all, they said, How can you possibly have all this accurate data on your Web site? You're telling the American people that jobs were created in congressional districts that don't even exist. And the first response from the White House was, "We are not certifying the accuracy of the information." Now, these are the people who said this would be the most transparent administration in history. Now they are not certifying the accuracy of the information now that they have got their hands on the money.

So then they followed it up, and they said, Well, how can you actually have

mistakes made that are this big where you have a State that only has seven congressional districts, and when we go to your Web site, there is a District 45, and it actually says how many jobs were created in that district that doesn't exist? How can you actually have a system that is set up that allows that kind of inaccurate information to be reported? And the White House's spokesperson actually said, "Who knows, man? Who really knows?"

Mr. Speaker, this is unbelievable and an insult to the American people who are still asking, Where are the jobs? Now, maybe it's fitting that the White House is showing jobs created in districts that don't exist because their stimulus bill was passed using money that doesn't exist. It is all money that is borrowed from our children and grandchildren, not a dime that was paid for.

And, of course, the latest that the President was talking about just 2 days ago, he said, if we keep on adding to this debt, even in the midst of this recovery, at some point, people could lose confidence in the United States' economy in a way that could actually lead to a double-dip recession.

So here you have the President of the United States admitting that all of this debt spending, this deficit spending that they are on this road to continue going down, is a bad thing and actually could lead to a double-dip recession, and yet their answer from day one has been a stimulus bill that adds another \$787 billion of debt. Then he came back right behind there with another bill, his budget, his budget that doubles the national debt. And then they went on with the bill called "cap-and-trade," a national energy tax, a bill that adds hundreds of billions of dollars.

You wonder why people are still asking, Where are the jobs? We need to get back to fiscal sanity. We need to actually have real transparency.

KARZAI INAUGURATION NO CURE FOR WHAT AILS AFGHANISTAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, today Hamid Karzai was inaugurated to serve another 5-year term as President of Afghanistan. International leaders, including President Obama and Secretary of State Clinton, are calling upon Karzai to reform his government, clean up corruption, and make us all proud of being his allies.

Well, Mr. Speaker, there is an old saying that fits this occasion, "Fool me once, shame on you; fool me twice, shame on me." The Karzai government is ineffective, incompetent, and corrupt. He stole the elections. He has placed drug lords and warlords in key positions of power and influence. He has tolerated and promoted cronyism,

graft, and a flourishing drug trade in his government and throughout his country, all of which have destroyed the confidence of the Afghan people in their own government and contributed to the resurgence of the Taliban.

What in the world makes anyone believe that he will be a catalyst for change? If someone won an election by committing rampant fraud, wouldn't he be more likely to commit fraud again and again? Why would he change a winning strategy? If someone personally picked and appointed warlords to take up key positions in his government, what makes you think he will now kick them out? Because the U.S. and Gordon Brown of Great Britain have asked him to?

If corruption and cronyism keep his friends healthy, wealthy, and happy, what makes you think he will turn off the spigot? Because he creates a special commission to look into the problem? Because his corrupt police are now going to have a special anticorruption unit and a unit to fight major crime?

What have they been doing up until now? Is he going to morph into being a new man, a different kind of leader, because he put a few words into his inaugural address about the need to create a clean government, the kind of government that people can trust?

Corruption is like a sickness, easier to spread than to cure.

Mr. Speaker, we do not have a partner we can trust in Afghanistan, yet we are asking tens of thousands of our servicemen and -women to go to Afghanistan and fight and die for Mr. Karzai's government. That's too high a price to pay, Mr. Speaker.

Soon the President will announce and outline the new U.S. strategy in Afghanistan, including a likely increase in the number of troops to be deployed there. I believe in the President's desire to do what's good for Afghanistan and the United States. I believe he wants to get it right and to be able to hand off to his successor at some point in the future a stable country, an Afghanistan that has turned the corner on violence and division and is beginning to flourish and develop once again.

I want that, too. But I do not think that sending more troops to a corrupt government is going to achieve that, no matter how many commissions and special police units are created or how many pretty words are put into an inaugural address. We should not send a single additional soldier to Afghanistan. It's that simple. We cannot afford to be fooled again.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)